

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
INFORMATION REPORT

This material contains information affecting the National Defense of the United States within the meaning of the Espionage Laws, Title 18, U.S.C. Secs. 793 and 794, the transmission or revelation of which in any manner to an unauthorized person is prohibited by law.

COUNTRY	Bulgaria	REPORT	
SUBJECT	The Vratsa-Svoge Road	DATE DISTR.	17 November 1954
DATE OF INFO.		NO. OF PAGES	2
PLACE ACQUIRED		REQUIREMENT NO.	RD
		REFERENCES	

This is UNEVALUATED

THE SOURCE EVALUATIONS IN THIS REPORT ARE DEFINITIVE.
 THE APPRAISAL OF CONTENT IS TENTATIVE.
 (FOR KEY SEE REVERSE)

1. The Vratsa-Milanovo (formerly Osikovo; N 43-07, E 23-24)-Iskur River-Svoge (N 42-58, E 23-20) road is 60 kilometers long. For the first three kilometers the road is 10-12 feet wide with shoulders one to two feet wide, of earth and loose stones. The surface is of crushed stone and is in fair condition. The road runs southwest from Vratsa through a gorge with a small river to the left (east). A stone embankment on the left side of the road is solid and in good condition. To the right of the road the gorge rises sheer. Although the road is rough, it is probably usable by vehicles all year round. 25X1
2. From three to 13 kilometers further along the road a width of 10-12 feet is maintained. The shoulders are one to three feet wide and are of earth and loose stones. The surface is of crushed stone which is loose in parts and has some potholes. The road climbs steeply to about 1,000 meters in a series of hairpin curves. It is used by heavy trucks in summer, but probably only with difficulty in winter. It is probably impassable when snow is on the ground. Trees and shrubs grow on the mountain through which the road travels. It is impossible for vehicles to leave the road. 25X1
3. The next 13 kilometers are from 10-14 feet wide. The shoulders are of the same construction as the preceding 10 kilometers. Its surface is of crushed stone, loose in parts and in variable condition. This portion of the road has a gradual ascent and runs level at some points. While the road winds, it has few hairpin curves. The terrain consists of plateau, mountain pasture, and woods, with the last four kilometers above the tree line. Vehicles can leave the road at some points. It reaches a height of 1,000-1,200 meters. Snow on the ground probably renders the road impassable.
4. The following 17 kilometers are from 10-14 feet wide. The shoulder construction is the same as the preceding portion and the surface is of crushed stone and is in poor condition over the last four kilometers. The road descends through mountains in a series of hairpin curves in the direction of Milanovo. It is impossible

SECRET--U. S. OFFICIALS ONLY

STATE	X	ARMY	X	NAVY	X	AIR	X	FBI	AEC					
-------	---	------	---	------	---	-----	---	-----	-----	--	--	--	--	--

NOTE: Washington distribution indicated by "X"; Field distribution by "#".

SECRET--U. S. OFFICIALS ONLY

- 2 -

25X1

to leave the road in this portion. A 10-ton truck was seen in this area. Snow probably closes this road in the winter. It is possible that there are washouts here and at many points there are signs of erosion.

5. Descending for eight kilometers south from Milanovo to the Iskŭr River the road is 12-14 feet wide. Its shoulders are of earth and loose stones. The crushed stone surface is badly gutted in parts. This portion enters the north side of the Iskŭr Valley which is partly wooded. Vehicles cannot leave the road here. Snow probably covers the road in winter, but otherwise it is usable.
6. The final 18 kilometers to Svoje are from 16-18 feet wide with two to four feet red sand, flush shoulders. The level road follows the Iskŭr River and ascends occasional hills where the road leaves the river for short distances. There are no hairpin curves in this section. The valley is wooded. A railway runs along the far side of the river. Vehicles cannot leave the road which is suitable for heavy vehicles throughout the year.

25X1

SECRET--U. S. OFFICIALS ONLY